

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 11 as follows:

11. (Amended) A laminate comprising the polyamide film of claim 8.

REMARKS

Claims 8-14 are pending herein. The Office Action dated January 12, 2001 rejected claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; and rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. This Amendment amends the specification and claim 11. Entry of these same amendments in Applicants' previously filed April 12, 2001 Amendment After Final Rejection was refused. No new matter is added.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the Amendment places the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein) or places the application into better form for appeal should an appeal be necessary. The Amendment does not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims, does not raise the issue of new matter, and does not raise any new issues requirement additional search and/or consideration since the Amendment is directed to subject matter previously considered during prosecution. Furthermore, the amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are in response to issues raised in the Final Rejection. The Amendment merely amends the specification to correct errors made during translation and amends claim 11 to correct a typographical error. Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment.

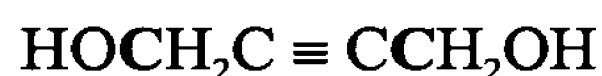
I. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

The Office Action rejected claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not adequately disclosed in the original specification. The Office

Action alleged that the phrase "each carbon atom immediately adjacent to a triple bonded carbon atom is to be substituted with a hydroxyl group and a methyl group" defining the acetylene glycol of the claimed polyamide film defined in claim 8 at lines 5-6 was not adequately described in the specification. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is improper because the subject matter of claims 8-14 is adequately supported by the original specification. Enclosed is a verified statement of a translator showing that a translation error occurred in translating the section of Japanese Patent Application No. 9-195220 corresponding to page 5, lines 22-24 of the present specification.

Moreover, Applicants do not understand the Patent Office's assertion that 2-butyne-1,4-diol meets the requirements of the present claims. 2-Butyne-1,4-diol is illustrated below:



The carbon atoms (in bold for emphasis) immediately adjacent to the triple bonded carbon atom are only substituted with a hydroxyl group, not the required hydroxyl group and methyl group. Thus, 2-butyne-1,4-diol is not encompassed by the scope of the present claims.

Furthermore, in Figure 1 (attached) are shown the chemical structures of several of the acetylene glycols and their addition products used in the present invention as described at page 5, lines 22-29. Note that the carbon atoms immediately adjacent to the triple bonded carbon atoms are substituted with a methyl and a hydroxyl group.

In view of the verified statement, the presence of specific examples meeting the limitations of the present claims, and the arguments in Applicants' April 12, 2001 Amendment After Final Rejection, it is clear that a translation error occurred.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that in view of the examples set forth in the specification, the amendments to the specification in this Amendment After Final Rejection are supported in the originally filed specification regardless of any translation error and thus the amendments do not represent new matter for this additional reason.

Accordingly, this Amendment amends the specification at page 5, lines 22-29, so that the specification clearly conveys that the acetylene glycol of the claimed polyamide film is one in which each carbon atom immediately adjacent to a triple bonded carbon atom is substituted with a hydroxyl group and a methyl group.

For at least these reasons, claims 8-14 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

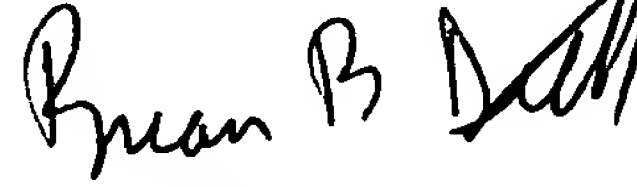
The Office Action rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This Amendment amends claim 11 to overcome this rejection. Claim 11 satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Brian B. Diekhoff  
Registration No. 46,353

JAO:BBD/rxg

Date: May 14, 2001

Attachments:

Appendix  
Verified Translation  
Figure 1

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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